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SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION  
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#### HEADLINES

##### MASS APPEAL

Zebari Crisis - Sabah  
Zebari: Turkish Troops Should Not Come to Iraq - Milliyet  
General Jones says the US Will Solve the PKK issue -  
Milliyet  
Iraqi Governing Council Ready to Welcome Turkish Troops -  
Turkiye

##### OPINION MAKERS

Iraqi People Want No Muslim Troops in Iraq - Cumhuriyet  
Ankara Disturbed by Zebari's Remarks - Radikal  
Bush Requests \$65 Billion Additional Budget for Iraq -  
Radikal  
Turkey to Supply Food to Iraqis During Ramadan - Zaman  
Rumsfeld: Countries Who Supply Troops will Sit at the Table  
- Zaman

#### BRIEFING

Zebari Remarks: All papers give extensive coverage to remarks by Iraqi Foreign Minister Zebari. Zebari, a representative of the KDP and Iraq's new foreign minister, said yesterday that Turkish troops should not be let into Iraq as peacekeepers, and that all of Iraq's neighbors should stay out in order not to create more problems for Iraqi stability. Turkish PM Erdogan said that Zebari's remarks reflected his personal views, while Foreign Minister Gul stressed that Zebari should not forget that he is the foreign minister of all the Iraqi people, not only of the Kurds. Gul urged the Iraqi FM to avoid statements that could cause confusion. "Cumhuriyet" notes that a survey by the Iraqi Center for Strategic Research shows that only 3.8 percent of the Iraqi people support the deployment of Muslim troops in Iraq.

Turkish Troop Deployment: "Zaman" reports that Turkish and US military delegations met yesterday to discuss a possible Turkish contribution to stabilization efforts in Iraq. The delegations reportedly discussed details such as the number of troops, the location of the deployed unit, the command structure, and the transit route through the north. The military delegation is expected to leave Turkey today. "Milliyet" reports that General Jones signaled that the Pentagon is taking the necessary steps to eliminate the PKK/KADEK in northern Iraq. "Hurriyet" reports that Turkey is working on a humanitarian plan in order to win the support of the Iraqi people. Within this framework, Turkey will arrange concerts of popular Turkish singers in Iraq and, during the holy month of Ramadan, will supply the Iraqi people with food for iftar.

#### EDITORIAL OPINION

"Get ready for a Kurdish state"  
Mehmet Ali Birand wrote in the mass appeal Posta (9/5): "In Iraq, only the Kurdish zone in the north has established the

necessary elements for self-governance. The Kurds have developed an infrastructure as well as education, health, and defense services, and they await Washington's nod and protection to declare sovereignty. The possibility is growing that Washington will give a green light for Kurdish autonomy within a federation or confederation. . Syria is not powerful enough to counter such a development. Iran will not be willing to further strain its ties with the U.S. . Turkey needs to develop a new and more realistic Kurdish policy in the face of changing global conditions. . Instead of drawing new `red lines' for Northern Iraq, Turkey must adjust itself to the new conditions."

"Things not spoken"

Erdal Guven noted in the mass appeal Vatan (9/5):

"Papadopoulos prefers that a minimum number of Turkish settlers remain in the Turkish Cypriot sector. The Greek Cypriots believe that the Annan Plan enabled an estimated 75,000 Turkish settlers to acquire citizenship in the new state in Cyprus. The Greeks view this number as extremely high. . Papadopoulos does not believe that the EU will provide a security umbrella for the island. The 6,000 Turkish troops allowed by the UN plan to remain in Cyprus is more than necessary, he believes. . Papadopoulos is also unhappy with the political rights envisaged for the Turks in the Annan Plan. . It seems that Papadopoulos will never reveal his true position in detail unless a real negotiator sits at the table with him. He is comfortable as long as Denktas is in place."

EDELMAN